

**Amendment to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0001], and all section headings preceding paragraph [0001], with the following paragraphs and section headings:

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED  
RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

[0001] The United States Government has rights in this invention pursuant to Contract No. 02-C-5030.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Statement of the Technical Field

[0001.1] The invention concerns dielectric substrates for RF circuits, and more particularly dielectric substrates with effective permittivity values that can be independently controlled in predetermined portions of the substrate.